Birds of the Bible

There are 290 references to birds in the Bible, according to a recent story in American Field. Ornithologists say that 113 are of general use in the sense that they refer simply to birds and are not directed to any particular species.

Of the species mentioned by name the dove holds first place by being mentioned 35 times. The eagle is mentioned 32 times.

The raven, cock and hen are mentioned 12 times each. Reference is made 11 times to the owl, 10 times to the pigeon, 7 to the sparrow, 6 to the stork, and 5 to the pelican.

Four passages refer to the quail, swallow and vulture, 3 to the ostrich, bittern, peacock and cormorant. The crane, partridge, osprey, kite, cuckoo, hawk, heron, nighthawk and lapwing are mentioned twice each. The swan, bird of prey, eagle once each.

2662.2

At The End Of My Life —

To my grave when Spring shall come
Go not with tearful eyes,
Standing solemn faced and glum
Underneath the smiling skies
All that lies the ground below
Will be worn-out garb I wore.
Only that and nothing more —
If in summertime you bring
Blossoms to that quiet spot
Do not go with sorrowing
Go as to a garden plot:
Smile and in its beauty share
Think of me as gone before.
Nothing of me will be there
But the shabby garb I wore.
And in Autumn when the leaves
Red and golden gently fall.
Do not go as one who grieves,
I shall not be there at all.

Though a little while I'm gone
Leaving you to fare alone
All the earth will lie upon
Will be raiment I've outgrown.

Emma Lomis